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FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Name:	Krohne Spring House		
Map Number:	Maps C & D #6	Photos #49 & #50	
Location:	329 South H Street Livingston		
Owner and address:	Leta Krohne 805 Maplewood Baytown, Texas 77521		
Construction date:	c. 1890s		
Style:	Vernacular		
Verbal boundary description:	Riverside Addition, Block Y, W 95' of lots 17-21		
Acreage:	city lots 1/2 acre		
U.T.M. reference:	1,2 5,3,5 2,0,0 5,0,5,6 4,8,0		
Bibliography:	Oral interview, Mrs. John Grady, May, 1979. Tom Stout, ed., <u>Montana</u> , Vol. II, p. 235.		

Description:
The stone milk house is a two-level structure, square in plan, constructed of mostly squared, random laid sandstone blocks. The joints have been smeared with modern concrete, obscuring the handsome wall surfaces. One small window faces west. The hip-roof is topped by a square, louvered ventilator. The two floors are entered separately, neither from the house. On the east, a wooden structure shelters the stair to the cool basement. An unprotected outside stair leads to the upper level. Interiors appear to have been changed: the well has been covered over; the upper wood floor appears of recent construction; and the upper walls are plastered. A chimney poking through the north side roof vented a stove, since removed. This heating arrangement may have been an addition. The one-story wood-frame, clapboard house has an irregular plan, the result of many additions. It abuts the milk house at the northwest corner.

Significance:
Among those who found work with the railroad in the early years was Charles O. Krohne. Born in Sweden in 1863, he learned the machinist's trade as a young man. He immigrated to Minneapolis in 1885, and four years later moved with his wife and two sons to Livingston, where he worked as a machinist for the Northern Pacific Railroad. After an industrial accident cost him both legs, Krohne began a successful real estate and insurance business. In addition to his residence, he built two business blocks and several rental houses. The house at 329 South H Street was probably built soon after his arrival in Livingston. The small clapboard structure is typical of those in the blue-collar neighborhood in which it is located. But the distinctive

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stone building attached to the rear is unusual, not only for its structure, but for its purpose. It was a milk or spring house, located over a well, which provided the family's water and served as a refrigerator. On one side of the well opening was the pump, on the other, a wooden platform from which ropes suspended ten gallon pails filled with perishable dairy products and other foodstuffs. Meat was hung from the walls.

This structure meets the following National Register criteria:

- A. The milk house is the only remaining structure of this type in Livingston that predates the age of modern refrigeration and food preservation technology.
- B. C. O. Krohne was a prominent early Livingston resident.
- C. This is one of a number of stone structures in Livingston, built of local materials.